

AP (WASHINGTON) -- A U-S NAVY CARRIER TASK FORCE HAS MOVED FROM THE ATHENS AREA OF GREECE TOWARD CRETE. THESE ARE THE FIRST MAJOR U-S SHIP MOVEMENTS SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF ARAB-ISRAELI FIGHTING YESTERDAY. THE REPORT COMES FROM U-S MILITARY SOURCES, BUT THE PENTAGON HAS DECLINED COMMENT EXCEPT TO CONFIRM SOME UNITS OF THE SIXTH FLEET HAVE PUT TO SEA. LL

THE SOURCES SAY THE CARRIER INDEPENDENCE AND THREE ESCORTING DESTROYERS HAVE SAILED FROM THE ATHENS AREA. EARLIER, VICE-ADMIRAL DAN MURPHY HAD CANCELED ALL SHORE LEAVES AND ORDERED ALL OFFICERS AND MEN BACK TO THEIR SHIPS. MURPHY IS FLEET COMMANDER.  
10:23AED 10-07-73

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FLEET 10-7

WITH MIDEAST

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SAID SUNDAY THAT PART OF THE U.S. SIXTH FLEET HAS LEFT ATHENS FOR AN UNKNOWN LOCATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

"CERTAIN SIXTH FLEET SHIPS HAVE PUT TO SEA," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. BUT HE REFUSED TO NAME THE SHIPS OR REVEAL THEIR DESTINATION.

IN ATHENS, WITNESSES SAID THE 45,000 TON U.S. 6TH FLEET AIRCRAFT CARRIER INDEPENDENCE, ESCORTED BY THREE DESTROYERS, STEAMED FOR AN UNKNOWN LOCATION.

FLEET SPOKESMEN WOULD NOT COMMENT, BUT SATURDAY NIGHT THE FLEET COMMANDER CANCELED SHORE LEAVE FOR ALL NAVY PERSONNEL BASED IN ATHENS.

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